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INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Royalty Comes to the Library

Library of Congress

INFORMATION BULLETIN

JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

203

208

212

On the Cover: Queen Elizabeth II paid a visit to the Library on May 15. She smiled as she entered the Jefferson Building with Dr. Billington and her husband, Prince Philip (center). *Photo by Jim Higgins*

Cover Story: Months of planning went into preparing for the royal visitors. The rich, famous and powerful from the entertainment and congressional worlds, among others, came too. 199

Finnish Guests: President and Mrs. Koivisto of Finland on May 8 were hosted by the Librarian and shown LC treasures. 208

Center for the Book News 209

Film Talk: Director Martin Scorsese, in connection with an exhibit of British film and television cosponsored by LC, lectured. 210

Arrest at the Library: A Maryland physician was arrested for allegedly stealing Library materials. 211

New Laureate: Nobel Prize winner Joseph Brodsky is the fifth Poet Laureate at the Library. 212

End of Time: Mark Strand concluded his duties as Poet Laureate. 213

Back to the Future: The old Main Reading Room is ready for the 21st century. 214

Exhibit Openings 219

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An Occasion Fit for a Queen:
Elizabeth II Visits the Library

By Guy Lamolinara

On May 15 the Library rolled out the red carpet.

The occasion was a call from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, as part of a three-day state visit to Washington. She came with a party of 17, including her husband, Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh.

As hundreds of onlookers craned their necks, stood on their toes, binoculars at the ready, for even a peek of her majesty from behind a blockade across the street, the official party was greeted at about 1 p.m. The queen, who has a reputation for always being precisely on time, was 15 minutes late. A long, black limousine with the queen arrived at the southwest front of the Jefferson Building driveway.

Around the building, the grass was mowed, flower beds had been planted the day before, and sidewalks, steps and streets had been swept. The crowd, including LC staffers, in an area of the Jefferson lawn designated by yellow police tape, cheered as the royals shook hands with Librarian of Congress James H. Billington and Mrs. Billington. (There was no curtsying by Americans, as some might have expected. According to protocol experts, U.S. citizens do not curtsy, which is an act acknowledging sovereignty to a monarch.)

The party was led across the freshly shampooed red carpet, bordered by velvet ropes and potted palms, and up the stairs to the Neptune Plaza, where they were introduced to the receiving line—Speaker of the House Thomas Foley; Sen. Claiborne Pell, a Rhode Island Democrat who is chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library; Kevin Billington (no relation to the Librarian), chairman of the British Academy of Film & Television Arts (BAFTA); Iain Vallance, chairman of British Telecommunications plc; and Philip Jones, managing director of Central Television Enterprises, among others.

Dr. Billington points out details in the Great Hall to her majesty, just before they climbed the stairs to the mezzanine. *Photo by Jim Higgins*

The Library and BAFTA cosponsored a festival of British film and television in Washington, May 12–June 1 (see LC *Information Bulletin*, May 20).

On the plaza, the award-winning Eastern High School Jazz Band played swing tunes from the 1940s. The queen and prince paused, and her majesty smiled upon hearing the tunes she grew up on. (The U.S. Army Band, originally slated to play, had backed out, saying the occasion "wasn't formal enough," according to an LC staffer.)

Most of the invited guests had already arrived before the royal party.

(Cont. on p. 200)

Queen's Visit *(Cont. from p. 199)*

The press had arrived too. Badges dangling from their necks, photographers and reporters were jostling for the best places on the plaza.

Photographers pointed their long lenses—up to 600mm—aiming at anyone and anything that might become the Shot of the Day.

Jane Fonda and Ted Turner got as much attention as the guests of honor, as reporters shouted questions at the pair and photographers pushed each other for a shot of the Couple of the Moment.

posted inside to direct the members of Congress, film stars and other glitterati to the appropriate place.

Rep. Mary Rose Oakar, an Ohio Democrat, said, "Jane, Jane. I represent Cleveland, and the 9 to 5ers up there love you! "Thank you, that's nice," said Ms. Fonda.

Later, inside, when Ms. Fonda walked back downstairs to use the women's room, she hugged one of the other guests, who offered America's fitness queen a cigarette, on which she gratefully drew several puffs.

Her majesty greets Sen. Barbara Mikulski of Maryland, one of the Congress members who was in the Great Hall receiving line. *Photo by Reid Baker*

Most of the guests walked slowly and spoke softly—men in dark blue or gray business suits, some with a red silk pocket square or white handkerchief peeking modestly above the breast pocket. Women in hats of every size, color and construction imaginable. Spike heels, flat heels. Long skirts, miniskirts.

By noon, the guests began walking inside and through a metal detector, up the stairs to the Great Hall mezzanine. More than two score volunteers from throughout the Library took posts at curbside and on steps flanking the fountain to greet guests. Volunteers were also

Actor Ben Kingsley of "Gandhi" fame looked distinguished in his light gray double-breasted suit. Director Martin Scorsese came too, but seemed to slip past the press on the plaza outside.

Among the stars, Angela Lansbury, here to receive a special award, was the crowd pleaser. In a black-and-white polka-dotted suit she mingled with the crowd, obliged photographers by posing for snapshots and even signed autographs. Tall, slender and blonde, she was as warm as the Sunday night heroine of Cabot Cove. As she shook hands with one LC staffer, she said, "You work here? How marvelous. I envy you."

The Billingtons and the queen and her party walked toward the main entrance and through the doors for a tour of the Great Hall, which has been closed for renovations since last year.

Her majesty's yellow-and-white flowered suit, white gloves and yellow hat were as bright as the weather outside, which left some of the press soaking wet as they waited for their cue to enter the building.

Those assembled in the hall applauded as her majesty, Prince Philip and the Billingtons approached the receiving line, which included Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, a New York Democrat; Sen. Barbara Mikulski, a Maryland Democrat; Rep. Oakar; and Sen. Dennis DeConcini, an Arizona Democrat.

Going up the south staircase, the queen paused on the landing to admire the room, providing another photo opportunity.

And she did the unexpected on the mezzanine level by asking Dr. Billington for introductions to some of the guests and LC staff as she and her party circled the perimeter. Waiters had been serving California wine, bottled water (Malvern, the queen's favorite) and hors d'oeuvres of stuffed Belgian endive to the guests.

Then it was on to lunch in the high-ceilinged Southwest Gallery, the same room that saw the visit of Raisa Gorbachev last May. There the head table guests, including Sen. Pell, Ms. Lansbury and Speaker Foley, greeted the queen. More than 300 others had accepted invitations, including actors Jessica Tandy, Hume Cronyn and Michael York. In addition to the Special Events staff (see box on page 201), the LC volunteers made sure things ran smoothly.

It was hot. So hot that Prince Philip, who was simultaneously hosting a luncheon of the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts,

(Cont. on p. 202)

Behind-the-Scenes Look at the Royal Reception

Protocol. Walk-throughs. Security Clearances. These buzz words echoed through the Great Hall on May 14 amid complicated, sometimes frantic planning for Queen Elizabeth's visit.

The reception lines, luncheons and document viewings went smoothly during her majesty's visit—so smoothly that onlookers and guests may not have realized the detailed preparations required.

"The hardest part is trying to anticipate what will go wrong," said LC Special Events Assistant Jim DeLorbe. While the Special Events Office had been planning for more than three months, the 24-hour period just before the queen's visit required a string of last-minute chores.

While Mr. DeLorbe was taking volunteer helpers on Great Hall walk-throughs to map out their duties and positions, Special Events Officers Nancy Mitchell and Kim Moden escorted British officials and the Librarian of Congress on a series of separate walk-throughs, in which they went step-by-step over the details.

In the Southwest Gallery the queen's toastmaster, Harry Polloway, rehearsed his luncheon greetings and introduction of her majesty, while other British officials discussed ways to reduce any "clinking and clanking" noises in the room (felt pads were placed on the bottom of all chair legs).

But these tasks were merely the odds and ends for the Special Events and Public Programs Office. Kim Moden and Nancy Mitchell were at LC very late at night working on last-minute preparations, and were back again a few hours later, working until the moment of the queen's arrival. Things kept changing: stage curtain colors, the placement of the luncheon musicians, guest list updates, seating arrangements, placecards, and so on.

The Public Affairs Office had tasks, too: forming press pools, securing press areas, distributing press passes, assembling information packets for the news media, and generally keeping the press where they should be, when they should be.

Unforeseen problems inevitably pop up. For example, during Raisa Gorbachev's May 1990 visit, an elderly woman claimed she was a member of the press and demanded to be let inside a secured area.

One tactic to avert such incidents during the queen's visit was to assign many LC staffers to be "floaters"; their main responsibility during the event was to circulate, identify and solve problems.

Protocol was one of the many details coordinated by Ms. Mitchell and Ms. Moden with the British Embassy, the State Department, British Telecommunications and the British Academy of Film & Television Arts, with input from the State Department.

"American and British cultures may seem similar, but an event like this one is truly an 'intercultural experience,'" Mr. DeLorbe said.

American guests needed to know specific rules of British etiquette regarding royal gatherings. For example, guests do not sit down until the queen is seated. No one begins eating until her majesty has begun. However, even the queen is not to begin eating until her official "taster" has taken a bite.

By 10:30 the morning of The Event, tension mounted in the hall. "This is organized chaos," remarked Tom Jones, chief of Protective Services, summer suit coat slung over one shoulder. Police dogs on leashes sniffed through the building.

Police officers milled around by the dozens and phalanxes of blue-suited, wired Secret Service officers marched two and three abreast around corners or stood planted at mezzanine and Main Reading Room gallery railings as motionless as the statuary, feet apart, arms folded, nothing moving but their eyes.

The catering staff ran across the marble floors with cartloads of gourmet food as they shuttled between the one working elevator and the Southwest Gallery and Southeast Pavilion sites of two luncheons, one for the queen and one for Prince Philip.

In one of only two women's rest rooms, waitresses were exchanging cool summer garb for long-sleeved, white pleated shirts, black ties and tuxedos, spraying their hair, applying lipstick and eye shadow. Within two hours, they would serve her majesty and more than 300 guests.

In center court of the Main Reading Room curators hovered over the Library's treasures, checking their placement. Special Events staffers checked seating arrangements and placecards one more time. Public Affairs staff checked the locations of telephones and open restrooms for the press, routes from the Neptune Plaza to the Main Reading Room galleries, receiving line locations to give photographers the best angles.

About 11:30, the caterers assembled their crew for one last check. Waiters were told to look at their assignment sheets to be sure they were working in the proper room. "If you are unsure where you are supposed to be, ask now," said one of those in charge. (No one asked.)

Now that the royal visit is over, Mr. DeLorbe said he thinks it was a clear success. "Amazingly, it went off without a hitch," he said.

—Jennifer Johnson and Gail Fineberg

Queen's Visit *(Cont. from p. 200)*

Manufactures & Commerce in the Southeast Pavilion, surprised the waiters by ordering a beer. But there was none at hand. Someone phoned a nearby liquor store and secured a six-pack of Samuel Adams, averting disaster.

The luncheon menu reflected the history of the Library and its spiritual founder, Thomas Jefferson. Jefferson took a keen interest in cuisine and prided himself on his cosmopolitan tastes and interests in foods of the New World. The fare served was based on meals Jefferson had served his guests during his presidency and his retirement at Monticello, as documented in family papers from the Library's collections (see box on page 207). And as a momento, each guest received a bookmark facsimile of Jefferson's handwritten recipe for macaroons.

The group Hesperus played background music of the Jeffersonian era on harpsichord, recorder, violin and violin da gamba.

While the guests ate, the press, which was divided into several closed pools, waited. Things were running late, and Antony Acland, the British ambassador, wanted to speed things up by having the queen go on to the Main Reading Room, before dessert.

But her majesty would have none of that. Her penchant for sweets is well known, and she wanted dessert, despite her tight schedule.

The queen enjoyed dessert so much that she requested that one of the cakes be sent to Blair House, where the royal party was staying.

Something that could only have been seen in Washington occurred as several members of Congress quit the luncheon for a roll call vote. Some of them had cars waiting; others walked across the street to the Capitol. But they all returned.

Dr. Billington, during the luncheon in the Southwest Gallery, proposed a toast to the "health and long life" of the queen. *Photo by Reid Baker*

The royal toastmaster, dressed in red tails, announced Dr. Billington to the guests. The Librarian caught the mood, saying, "We are gathered in this beautiful Jefferson Building overlooking the Capitol in a spirit of friendship and celebration to welcome Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II back to the Library of Congress, which she first visited as a young princess 40 years ago.

"All of us feel a bond with the United Kingdom," he continued, "based on a tradition and literature that has inspired us and a language that has united us. . . . Ladies and gentlemen, I ask you to stand and join me in a toast to the health and long life of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II."

The guests rose to their feet, briefly raised their glasses, then applauded.

In introducing Kevin Billington, the Librarian joked, "We are not related, although some have said that he belongs to the stay-behind Billingtons while I belong to the had-to-leave Billingtons."

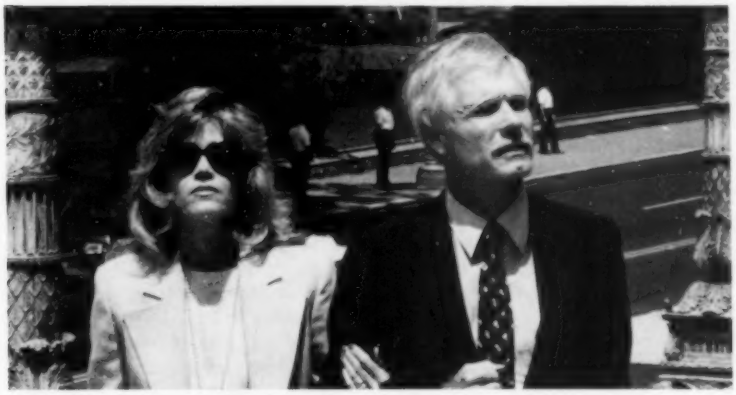
Kevin Billington kept them amused: "I was slightly apprehensive about my reception here today after I discovered the first person to be hanged in the new colony of Virginia following his arrival on the *Mayflower* was called, like me, Billington.

"The warmth of your reception, Dr. Billington, as well as your name, reassures me."

Kevin Billington thanked the royal family for its support of BAFTA. He also paid tribute to Dr. Billington and especially Robert Saudek, chief of LC's Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division, and his staff, for their initiative in organizing the British film festival.

"And now I'd like to introduce," said Kevin Billington, "a man who himself personifies quality and the high standards in our industry, both behind and in front of the camera. Despite his acclaim, . . . he's known to everybody as Dickie. I mean of course, . . . Sir Richard Attenborough."

The film director, not be outdone in the humor department, picked up the joke of the day where his predecessors had left off: "I feel in a somewhat invidious position this afternoon. As you are already aware, the previous two speakers share the same name of Billington, and I felt at something of a disadvantage. And so I thought the best thing to do was to ask my kid brother to come along as well," he said, referring to documentary producer David Attenborough,



Jane Fonda and Ted Turner arrive to as much attention as the queen herself. *Photo by Marita Stamey*

who at the luncheon hosted by Prince Philip received the Benjamin Franklin Medal. The medal is awarded alternately to citizens of the United Kingdom and the United States "who have forwarded the cause of Anglo-American understanding."

According to Richard Attenborough, the status of British filmmakers is "somewhat tenuous. . . . Our future is certainly questionable. Indeed, it does look somewhat threatened unless there is a reinvestment climate created . . . for British filmmakers to make a few movies back in England."

But the director was grateful that the climate on this side of the Atlantic is better for Britons. "Of great comfort to all of us [is] that many of our finest actors, actresses, writers, directors, producers, technicians are made so very welcome here," he said.

"I am, however, an eternal optimist, a sort of aging, male Mary Poppins," he said, referring to British successes in current television productions.

"This Anglo-American occasion was intended to be just that," he added, "and BAFTA wanted to find someone . . . who would personify all that we celebrate here today. Ideally, that individual was born in the United Kingdom, lived most of her life in the United States. Someone who has remained immensely popular on both sides of the Atlantic, and whose works have been acclaimed in both film and television. . . . The person who of course sprang to mind . . . has created a character who is famous throughout the world. That character of course is Jessica Fletcher. And that television series is of course, 'Murder, She Wrote.' The actress is . . . Angela Lansbury."

While the audience applauded, Ms. Lansbury accepted the BAFTA Silver Mask award. "Thank you, Dickie, what a perfectly wonderful life achievement award. One never thinks one's going to be old enough to receive these, but the day does arrive," she said.

Dr. Billington then presented several gifts to the queen from LC collections:

☐ a facsimile of an original letter of Queen Elizabeth I, dated June 29, 1568, to Catherine de Medici referring to Mary Stuart, who had taken refuge in England;

☐ a facsimile of the only existing copy in Spanish of the original General Orders for the Invincible Armada of 1588. It is the personal copy of the commander-in-chief of the Spanish Armada;

☐ a cassette of historic footage from the Library's collections of films of the royal family;

☐ photographs of earlier royal visits to the Library, when Princess Elizabeth visited in 1951, when the Queen Mother was here in 1954, and Prince Charles in 1985.

The Librarian also presented to Ambassador Acland a compact disc containing the Library's most recent bibliographic records for the British Library.

Her majesty smiled.

And then she enjoyed her sweet.

Additional writing and reporting by Gail Fineberg

"Thank you, Dickie," said Angela Lansbury as she accepted a lifetime achievement award from director Richard Attenborough. *Photo by Reid Baker*

Main Reading Room Readied for a Special 'Reader'

Curators of some of the Library's treasures prepared a royal treat for Queen Elizabeth and her party on May 15.

What was unusual about the exhibit is that it integrated items from several special collections to portray a chronological history of the nation.

"This is the first time I've seen a lot of these treasures together," said Ralph Ehrenberg, assistant chief, Geography and Map (G&M) Division.

Suzanne Thorin gives a demonstration to the queen as (from left) Richard Attenborough, Kevin Billington and the Librarian observe. *Photo by Jim Higgins*

After lunch, Dr. Billington escorted the queen to the newly renovated Main Reading Room for a look at rare manuscripts, maps, prints, photographs and music, as well as a demonstration of modern Library technology. Also on display at the central reference desk were 150 books, drawn from the general collection, about the queen and the royal family.

As they walked counterclockwise around the inside of the circular reference desk, the Librarian provided commentary linking items in the exhibit and explaining their significance. Some of the curators stepped forward to answer the queen's questions or explain some detail of the exhibit.

The exhibit evolved from an assortment of unrelated items of Americana, which the curators took to an initial planning session with Dr. Billington and Winston Tabb, acting deputy Librarian of Congress, on May 3. During that session and three subsequent meetings, the curators began to connect an item in one collection with an item in another collection.

For example, Dr. Ehrenberg took Maj. Pierre Charles L'Enfant's original map (August 1791) of Washington to a planning session. David Wigdor, assistant chief, Manuscript Division, then produced two related items from the Jefferson Papers. One was Thomas Jefferson's March 1791 sketch of a grand city, laid out in a grid pattern typical of American cities, on 2,000 acres at the site of the present Washington Mall location. The other item was a March 1791 letter from President George Washington to Jefferson, then secretary of state, in which Washington explained he had directed L'Enfant to survey and lay out a larger city extending "from Rock-creek along the river to the eastern-branch." Dr. Ehrenberg included a digitized version of the L'Enfant map to illustrate how conservators can use a computer to eliminate stains and enhance faded handwriting on the original.

On May 10, the Friday before the queen's visit, Dr. Ehrenberg took computer-generated captions he had created for G&M items to a walkthrough in the Main Reading Room. His colleagues liked them so much that similar captions were printed out for all of the exhibit items. Soon, Conservation Office staffers were involved in the project. They encapsulated captions and exhibit items in plastic, prepared backing and mounting for the items, made cradles for some materials and hung others.

"I give the conservation staff a lot of credit; they are very professional, very creative," Dr. Ehrenberg said.

The exhibit opened with two items from the period of New World exploration and conquest. "I wanted to show her things familiar or phenomenally dramatic, such as the Huejotzingo Codex of 1531," said Dr. Wigdor.

The Codex is one of the few surviving documents from the time of the conquest of the New World, Dr. Wigdor said. A Nahuatl Indian pictograph, the Codex is part of a deposition prepared by the native residents of Huejotzingo, Mexico, for use by Hernando Cortes in a lawsuit he brought against three other conquistadors who, he claimed, had misappropriated his property.

The next item, from the Rare Book and Special Collections Division, was a 1589 engraving that depicts Sir

Francis Drake's attack on St. Augustine, Fla., May 28–29, 1586. Division Chief Larry Sullivan said the queen was curious about this engraving and asked for an explanation. She was also interested in the Eliot Indian Bible (Cambridge, 1663), the first missionary Bible translated and printed for natives who had no alphabet or written language.

"It is always a pleasure to show visiting dignitaries what marvelous things the Library has, especially when they react to them," Dr. Sullivan said.

Of particular interest to Queen Elizabeth, Dr. Wigdor said, was an April 29, 1865, letter of condolence from her great-great-grandmother, Queen Victoria, to Mary Todd Lincoln, following the death of President Lincoln. "The Queen immediately recognized the importance of this letter for its diplomatic overtones," Dr. Wigdor said. "I found her remarkable; she knew all about the *Trent* affair."

Dr. Wigdor related the history: Because of its reliance on cotton imports, Great Britain unofficially supported the Confederacy during the Civil War. During the conflict, the Union caught a British mail packet, the *Trent*, which was carrying two Confederate diplomats—one bound for England and the other for France—who were seeking recognition of the Confederacy as an independent power.

After firing across the British ship's bow, Union officers boarded the *Trent*, seized the Confederates, and dispatched them to jail in Boston. Britain nearly retaliated, but Prince Albert, Queen Victoria's husband, calmed down outraged British ministers and possibly kept Britain out of war with the Union.

In her letter to Mrs. Lincoln, Queen Victoria expressed her grief and loss following Albert's death. Victoria's ministers hoped this letter would be published and further ease tensions between the United States and Britain.

Members of the royal party and British Academy of Film & Television Arts (BAFTA) guests were quick to pick up on the significance of this letter, as well as other items, such as the full holograph score of Benjamin Britten's opera *Peter Grimes*. "Sir Richard Attenborough [vice president of BAFTA] zeroed in on this," said Jon Newsom, assistant chief, Music Division.

Mr. Newsom explained that Britten, a pacifist, left England before the outbreak of World War II and established residency in the United States. In 1942, another "exile" in America, a Russian Jew, Serge Koussevitzky, conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, commissioned Britten to write an opera. Britten's inspiration was English poet George Crabbe's "The Borough," a tale of Peter Grimes, a fisherman haunted by the ghosts of his murdered apprentices.

The poem prompted Britten to return to England during the war and make his home in Aldeburgh, which was Crabbe's setting for the poem. "Britten found his [English] roots in America," Mr. Newsom said.

Concluding the exhibit, Suzanne Thorin, chief, General Reading Rooms (GRR) Division, demonstrated ACCESS, a new touch-screen program to help readers conduct their own searches of records leading to items in the Library's collections. Ms. Thorin said the queen immediately put her at ease. "She does her job very well," Ms. Thorin said. "I felt very comfortable with her."

The queen seemed "totally unafraid of computers, and in fact remarked that they are the only way to go," Ms. Thorin said.

Ms. Thorin was prepared. She had rehearsed her speech and practiced retrieving records for four items in case she had to fill time until the queen left as scheduled at 3 p.m. "I had to be aware of the pace, of the traffic flow, as the guests moved around the reference desk," she said. "First I got a high sign to condense my presentation and then a high sign to string it out."

As it turned out, she had time only to retrieve one record, *The Old Man of Lochnagar*, a children's story written by the Prince of Wales—Charles, son of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip. Ms. Thorin also had on hand a copy of the book—apparently the right choice for the demonstration.

"Look what they have for us," the Queen remarked with pleasure to Philip as he joined her.

—*Gail Fineberg*

Ralph Ehrenberg (left) showed maps to her majesty as part of an exhibit that provided a chronological history of the U.S. *Photo by Jim Higgins*

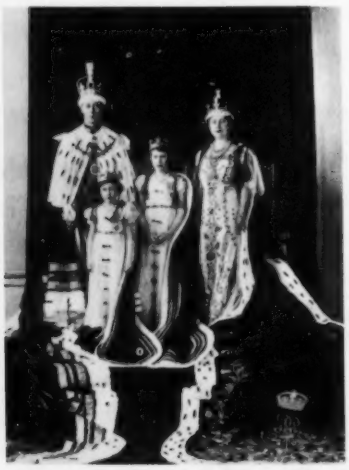
How the Royal Couple Came to Rule

It would appear that the concept of royalty is out-of-date until one looks at the world today.

Most of the Scandinavian countries have a monarch, as do the Netherlands, Belgium and Spain. The supposed demise of royal families as heads of state, nominal or otherwise, may be on the horizon, yet newspapers have reported that the emerging nations of the East bloc—Romania, Albania, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria—are engaged in various negotiations to possibly return exiled royalty to the thrones their families held before the world wars of the 20th century.

The great equalizer came with World War I, when thrones toppled on both the losing and winning sides. European royal houses were in shambles and the rise of the democratic state seemed inevitable.

Such was to prove premature. Only with another world war and the probable dismemberment of the Communist empire would democratic forms of government take firm hold with, in some cases, constitutional monarchies.



Royal family portrait of King George VI, Queen Elizabeth (the "Queen Mum"), with daughters Elizabeth, the future queen (middle), and Margaret.

Verner Clapp, chief assistant Librarian of Congress, escorts Princess Elizabeth Nov. 2, 1951, on her first visit to the Library. *Photo from LC Archives*

The May 15 visit to the Library of a descendant of a sovereign of the former Colonies was not her first. Queen Elizabeth II graced LC once before, but as a mere princess in 1951, with her prince consort, the Duke of Edinburgh. The genealogy of Elizabeth and Philip shows how they got to where they are today.

Prince Philip's ascendancy as the queen's husband follows a rather standard path. Go back just 150 years to pick up Philip's family tree with a sister of Alexander, Prince of Hesse (1823–1888), who became the Empress Maria of Russia, and was the youngest daughter of Louis, Grand Duke of Hesse (a German principality). Alexander fell in love with a lady-in-waiting to Empress Maria, the countess Julia Hanke, and although the marriage was deemed unsuitable (royalty marrying nobility) the two eventually received the accepted morganatic dispensation to marry.

Alexander, being of royal birth, and Julia, of noble birth, were granted the title of Battenburg, and their issue became the House of Battenburg (a German title). Alexander and Julia's eldest son, Ludwig (Louis), married a granddaughter (Viktoria of Hesse and the Rhine) of Queen Victoria, and he later joined the British Royal Navy, where he rose to become First Sea Lord of the Admiralty. Louis resigned in 1914, when World War I broke out, to avoid any entanglements with his German ancestry. In 1917 he received the newly created title Marquis of Milford Haven and also was given the new English-sounding name of Mountbatten, the derivative of the German Battenburg.

Louis's history shows the close connections and the intermarriage of European royalty at this time. Louis was uncle of the last queen of Spain, the father of the queen of Sweden, brother-in-law of the last czar of

The "Queen Mum" with L. Quincy Mumford, at the Library in 1954, admires a young girl's doll. *Photo from LC Archives*

Russia and the grandfather of Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh. Louis's youngest son, also Louis, became famous as Earl Mountbatten of Burma and Viceroy of India during the critical years of the 1940s. Louis's first child, Princess Alice Battenburg, married Prince Andrew of Greece, and their issue, Philip, met and later married the future Queen of England, Elizabeth II, in 1947.

Philip's father, Prince Andrew, son of the King of the Hellenes, became a notorious playboy and died of his excesses in Monaco in 1944. Philip's mother, Alice, who was daughter of Prince Louis of Battenburg, took to an Orthodox nunnery for the remainder of her life. Such is the legacy of the prince consort.

The future Queen Elizabeth II came from a more structured and royal background. Elizabeth Alexandra Mary, the eldest daughter of the Duke and Duchess of York, was also related to Ernst Augustus, Elector of Hanover, and Sophia of Bohemia, whose son, George, became King George I of England in 1714, following the death of the last reigning Stuart, Queen Anne.

George I, under the Act of Settlement (which ensured Protestant succession), spent most of his time in his native Germany and never learned to speak English. British monarchs ruled German Hanover until Queen Victoria ascended to the English throne in 1837. The current English royal family now bears the name of the House of Windsor, its history reaching back only to World War I and the decision by King George V to denounce his and his family's claim to any titles or lands of German origin and begin to bear names of English background solely.

And so it was that on July 17, 1917, the royal House of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, otherwise known as Hanover or Brunswick, became the House of Windsor. The Saxe-Coburg-Gotha connection had been made by the marriage of Queen Victoria to her cousin Albert in 1840, and the sovereigns of this house were Edward VII and George V, following Victoria, until 1917. Victoria was the last of the Hanoverian line. On Feb. 8, 1960, it was royally decreed that the descendants of Elizabeth II and Prince Philip were to be known as Windsor-Mountbattens.

How Elizabeth came to be queen is an even more interesting story:

On the death of King George V in 1936, the throne was to have passed to the legitimate heir, the Prince of Wales—Edward Albert Christian George Andrew Patrick David—and eldest son of George V. However, after his accession to the throne in 1936, King Edward VIII abdicated to marry the divorced American Wallis Simpson.

King Edward thus passed the throne to George V's second son, the Duke of York, who became King George VI. The English Cabinet had refused to acknowledge King Edward's modern view of social attitudes, mainly because his marriage to Mrs. Simpson was incompatible with the king's position as head of the Church of England. So upon George VI's death in 1952, his eldest daughter, Elizabeth, became rightful heir, and her coronation took place June 2, 1953. —*John Sullivan*

The Menu

The nation's third president had a hand in the queen's luncheon.

The menu was based entirely on foods imported, grown or served by Thomas Jefferson. The president, who had a fervent interest in food, imported varieties of figs, raisins, anchovies and Parmesan cheese, and introduced macaroni and vanilla to the United States.

The Library has Jefferson's recipe for macaroons, in his own hand, which was used in making the macaroons served at the queen's luncheon. Jefferson even inspired the damask tablecloths used, which were a green favored by Jefferson.

And the flowers on the tables were chosen from the varied plants he enjoyed at Monticello.

The menu:

☐ Pencil asparagus bundles with Norwegian smoked salmon, anchovy tarragon vinaigrette, with a warm *barquette* of brie and sun-dried tomato;

☐ Grilled turkey breast, glazed with mulberry wine nested on a compote of figs, raisins, blood oranges and fresh cherries;

☐ James River wild rice pancakes, timbales of macaroni and Shenandoah cheddar;

☐ Early plantation snap peas, pearl onions and toasted pine nuts; and

☐ Copper skillet spoonbread.

☐ The dessert, a "Jeffersonian trompe l'oeil book" made of gingerbread cake layered with lavender honey and verbena lemon mousse bound in a marzipan jacket

President and Mrs. Koivisto are amused by a map shown them by Richard Stephenson of the Geography and Map Division. *Photo by Reid Baker*

President of Finland Comes Calling

Heads of state from Scandinavian countries have been well represented at the Library as of late. In February the Queen of Denmark visited LC. On May 8 President Mauno Koivisto of Finland came.

President Koivisto, who is serving his second six-year term, arrived in a pinstriped double-breasted suit at 10 a.m. with his wife, Taimi Tellervo, to have tea with Dr. Billington and view the treasures of the Library laid out in the Librarian's conference room. The guests were also given a demonstration of what Dr. Billington referred to as "an electronic library of the future," LC's American Memory, which gives on-line access to portions of the collections.

The visit to LC was on the agenda of a three-day "official working visit" to Washington that included meetings with President Bush, Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan and Commerce Secretary Robert A. Mosbacher.

At the Library, President Koivisto and his delegation, which included Jukka Valtasaari, ambassador to the United States, and Foreign Affairs Minister Paavo Vayrynen, were shown items from the Manuscript, Prints and Photographs, Geography and Map, Rare Book and Special Collections, and Music divisions.

Of particular interest to the president was an 1899 map of Finland that set the standard for national atlases produced in the 20th century. The delegation also had a look at a letter and drawing by famed Finnish-American architect Eero Saarinen.

The president revealed his sense of humor when he said, "This is fun," as Carl Fleischhauer, coordinator of American Memory, demonstrated the project. The guests laughed as they saw a time-lapse demolition of a building in New York City.

President Koivisto, who was a carpenter, dockworker and primary school teacher before entering politics, received a Ph.D. in 1956. He is also an author of five books on economics and politics.

The Arts & Entertainment Network's 1991 Teacher Recognition Awards were presented at the Library May 13 in an event hosted by the Center for the Book. The awards recognize the creative uses of cable television in the classroom. At the ceremony were (from left) John Y. Cole, director of the center; luncheon speaker Henry Louis Gates Jr. of Harvard University; Peggy Charren, president of Action for Children's Television; Nick Davatzes, president of the Arts and Entertainment Network; and James H. Billington, Librarian of Congress. Before the luncheon, Mr. Davatzes presented the Librarian with a $2,500 contribution to support LC's Center for the Book in its "Year of the Lifetime Reader" campaign. *Photo by Reid Baker*

News from the Center for the Book

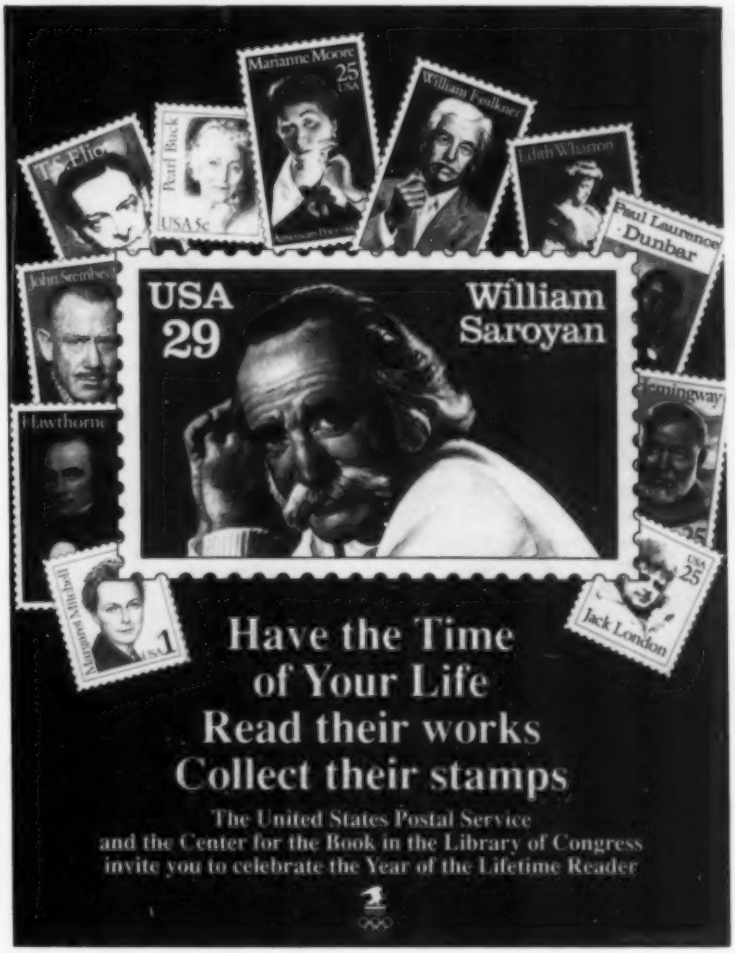
Postal Service Poster Salutes 'Year of the Lifetime Reader'

In a salute to the "Year of the Lifetime Reader," the national program initiated by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, the Postal Service has produced a special poster containing 13 stamps that honor American authors.

Featured on the poster is a stamp that was issued May 22 to honor Armenian-American novelist, playwright and short story writer William Saroyan.

Postmaster General Anthony M. Frank presented a framed copy of the poster to Librarian of Congress James H. Billington on May 2 at the Library.

The poster was displayed in post offices nationwide, in the 24 state Centers for the Book and in 60 schools for military dependents.



'Lifetime Reader' Sponsors Top 100 Mark

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association has become the 103rd organization to agree to participate in "Year of the Lifetime Reader," the Library's 1991 national reading promotion.

"The Lifetime Reader campaign is unprecedented in the Library's history," said Librarian James H. Billington. "Never before has the Library of Congress worked with so many national organizations in a single project. Business and labor, academic honor societies and television groups, private sector literacy experts and departments of the federal government are among those who have joined us in recognizing the importance of developing reading as a lifetime habit," he added.

"1991—The Year of the Lifetime Reader," initiated by the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, reminds Americans of the importance of reading as a lifetime activity by encouraging family literacy and other reading motivation projects. Participating organizations develop their own projects, publicize the theme or make financial contributions to support literacy or reading projects throughout the nation. Examples include a poster featuring American authors sponsored by the U.S. Postal Service (story, this page); and a contribution from the Library of America of 100 copies of its recent volume about Jefferson for use in local projects. The "Year of the Lifetime Reader" photography contest (see LC *Information Bulletin*, May 6) is a joint ALA/Center for the Book project.

National participation also comes from the 24 state centers and the Department of Defense Dependent Schools system.

Contributors to the Lifetime Reader campaign include the AFL-CIO, the Association of American Publishers; Book-of-the-Month Club, R.R. Bowker Co., Encyclopaedia Britannica, Pizza Hut Inc., Simon & Schuster Inc., Time Warner Inc. and World Book Inc. (see box on page 210 for a complete list).

Director Scorsese Talks About His Idol

It was a standing-room-only crowd May 16 in the Mumford Room as film director Martin Scorsese

lectured on "The Color Films of Michael Powell."

The crowd was not disappointed and showed its appreciation with a standing ovation at the lecture's end.

But Mr. Scorsese was not the only attraction for celebrity-watchers. In the audience were some of the people associated with "The Great British Picture Show," a film festival cosponsored by the Library and the British Academy of Film & Television Arts. Actors Ben Kingsley and James Fox, production designer Ken Adam and several film critics and historians were seated among the crowd.

Powell, with Emeric Pressburger, produced many high-quality films in the 1940s and 1950s in both color and black and white. "The Thief of Baghdad" (1940), "Black Narcissus" (1947), "The Red Shoes" (1948) and "The Tales of Hoffmann" (1951) are just a few of the most notable examples of Powell-Pressburger master cinema. Produced in collaboration with the best artistic and technical talent of the day, Powell's films, according to Mr. Scorsese, increased the quality of popular culture and likewise the vocabulary of film storytelling. His use of color-as-symbol, color-as-design, combinations of painterly images and gesture, and sound modulations are responsible for the impressions these films still make today, he said.

A longtime advocate of film preservation, Mr. Scorsese also argued persuasively for the retention of original color values, one of the hallmarks of the Powell-Pressburger "Archer Films."

Mr. Scorsese, 48, said his first exposure to the Archer Films and those of the Italian realists De Sica and Rossellini was during Saturday matinees or while watching the edited black-and-white versions on television. Although these were heavily laced with commercials, he said the interruptions did not diminish the films' effects. The influences of those earlier films can be seen in Mr. Scorsese's "Taxi Driver," "Raging Bull," "The Last Temptation of Christ" and "GoodFellas," among others.

The director acknowledged these films' debt to Powell. He mentioned, for example, how the menacing eye-gestures of the gondolier in "Hoffmann" influenced his filming of Robert De Niro as a disturbed taxi driver.

In 1974 Scorsese finally met his idol, who remained his friend and adviser until his death last year.

Fellow director Richard Attenborough ("Gandhi") brought the program to a conclusion by congratulating Mr. Scorsese on his film artistry.

—John J. Wayne

'Year of the Lifetime Reader' Partners

AFL/CIO; Alpha Kappa Alpha International; Altrusa International Foundation Inc.; American Association for Adult and Continuing Education; American Association for the Advancement of Science; American Association of Retired Persons; American Bar Association; American Booksellers Association; American Council on Education; American GI Forum of the United States; American Hotel and Motel Association; American Library Association; American Mensa, Ltd; American Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation; American Postal Workers Union; Association of American Publishers; Association of American University Presses; Association of Booksellers for Children; Baltimore City Literacy Corporation; Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy; B'nai B'rith; Business Council for Effective Literacy; Cartoonists Across America; Center for Applied Linguistics; Chautauqua Institution; Chautauqua Northwest; Child Welfare League of America Inc.; Children's Book Council; Children's Defense Fund; Christian Booksellers Association; Congress of National Black Churches; Correctional Education Association; Council for Early Childhood Professional Recognition; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.; Federation of State Humanities Councils; Friends of Libraries, U.S.A.; General Federation of Women's Clubs International; Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.; Graphic Arts Literacy Alliance; Home & School Institute Inc.; International Association of Business Communicators; International Reading Association; KIDSNET; Kiwanis International; Laubach Literacy Action; Leo Clubs–Lion's Clubs International; Library of America; Links Inc.; Literacy Network; Literacy Volunteers of America; LULAC (League of United Latin American Citizens); Lutheran Church Library Association; Modern Language Association of America; National Alliance of Black School Educators; National Alliance of Business; National Association for Adults with Learning Disabilities; National Association for the Education of Young Children; National Association of Broadcasters; National Association of Colored Women's Clubs; National Association of Elementary School Principals; National Association of Partners in Education; National Association of Secondary School Principals; National Association of University Women; National Black Child Development Institute; National Book Foundation; National Center for Family Literacy; National Coalition of Title I Chapter I Parents; National Council for the Social Studies; National Council of La Raza; National Council of State Directors of Adult Education; National Council of Teachers of English; National Council on the Aging; National Education Association; National Federation of Press Women; National Governors Association; National Home Study Council; National Organization on Disability; National PTA; National Partners for Libraries and Literacy; National Rural Electric Cooperative Association; National School Boards Association; New Jersey Connection; New York Is Book Country Inc.; Parents Without Partners; Phi Beta Kappa Society; Phi Delta Kappa; Project Literacy U.S. (PLUS); Public Television Outreach Alliance; Reading Is Fundamental Inc.; SER–Jobs for Progress; Southern Newspaper Publishers Association; Special Libraries Association; Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL); U.S. Department of Agriculture National 4-H Extension Service; U.S. Department of Education; U.S. Department of Labor; U.S. Government Printing Office; U.S. Information Agency; U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS); U.S. Postal Service; United Way of America; White House Conference on Library and Information Services Taskforce (WHCLIST); Wider Opportunities for Women.

Enterprise Lands At the Library

The cast and producers of "Star Trek: The Next Generation" visited the Library May 1 as guests of the Global Library Project, a weekly cable TV series based on LC's collections. Cast member Le Var Burton (center, standing on carpet) is also host of "Reading Rainbow," a children's television series that recently featured the Library. In the Librarian's conference room were (from left) Ernie Over, assistant to Mr. Roddenberry; Gene Roddenberry, executive producer and creator of the series; Mrs. Martin Berman; David Brandt of the National Space Society; cast member Brent Spiner; Martin Berman, executive producer for Paramount Television; Burton; writer Michael Tiller; his wife; Janet Chase, special assistant to the Librarian; and Maurvene Williams, program officer for the Center for the Book. Dr. Billington (foreground, right) explained the future of the Library and how it fits into the information age, as well as the importance of sharing this information with the public. *Photo by Jim Higgins*

Physician Arrested In Thefts at LC

The FBI's Washington Metropolitan Field Office (WMFO) said May 7 that FBI agents and Library of Congress investigators had arrested a College Park, Md., physician in connection with a series of thefts of books and extracts from LC volumes.

Thomas E. Duhadway, special agent in charge of the FBI's WMFO, and Thomas Jones of LC's Protective Services, said that Harry Robert Katz 44, after a lengthy investigation conducted jointly by the FBI and LC authorities, was taken into custody May 6 at the Library in possession of stolen material and charged with theft of government property. Mr. Katz is a practicing radiation specialist in College Park, Md., a Washington suburb.

Mr. Katz has pleaded not guilty and was released on his own recognizance; he has no prior criminal record. As of press time May 17, a trial date had not been set.

According to Capt. Damian Romanelli of the Library police, the arrest was the result of a "tremendous investigation on the part of the police. The people who performed the investigations have a lot of experience in this type of work." Capt. Romanelli also mentioned that LC staff not on the police force, notably John Rossman of Collections Management, had helped.

Mr. Duhadway said FBI agents from Washington and Baltimore offices, along with LC technicians, searched Mr. Katz's Potomac residence the night of May 6 and seized boxes of allegedly stolen library material, including pages cut with razor blades from Library volumes. Additionally, similar extractions from volumes identified with the University of Maryland Library were also seized. According to Mr. Duhadway, a number of "cuttings" from the books appear to relate to 19th and 20th century art and photography as well as mathematical writings.

Capt. Romanelli said that so far Mr. Katz has only been charged by federal officials in connection with the allegedly stolen LC property. It is possible that other charges could be brought in Maryland as well as Virginia, whence some of the materials were later identified as originating.

Mr. Katz was charged with violating U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 641, a felony. If convicted, Mr. Katz could be sentenced to up to 10 years in a federal penitentiary and fined up to $10,000. If convicted, mandatory sentencing guidelines would require "some amount of time in prison," said Capt. Romanelli.

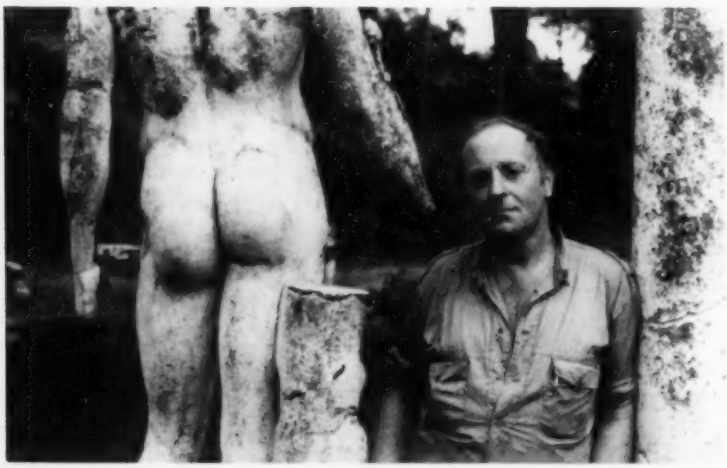
Mr. Duhadway said at the time of the arrest that preliminary FBI and Library estimates of recovered materials indicated their value was $40,000. Capt. Romanelli added that a later estimate put the total value of the materials allegedly stolen at more than $60,000.

The FBI and LC joint investigation is continuing.

Brodsky Named New Poet Laureate . . .

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington May 11 appointed Joseph Brodsky as the Library's next Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry, effective Sept. 1.

A poet of international stature, Mr. Brodsky succeeds Robert Penn Warren (1986–87), Richard Wilbur (1987–88), Howard Nemerov (1988–90) and incumbent Mark Strand (1990–91) in the post, established by Congress in 1985 to honor the nation's top poets.



Joseph Brodsky, author of *Marbles: A Play in Three Acts*, published by Farrar, Straus & Giroux. *Photo copyright 1989 by Annalisa Alleva*

In announcing the appointment, Dr. Billington said, "To have a poet of Joseph Brodsky's distinction in both English and Russian is a rare opportunity. His has been, as we all know, a powerful and evocative voice about Russian life and culture. But he has also become another in the long line of gifted new Americans who come to us from other shores and bring fresh creative resources into our national life. Our special interest at the Library of Congress is that he brings to the full range of modern American poetry the driving curiosity and penetrating observations of an outsider while exploring with increasing versatility his own and poetry's Americanness."

Mr. Brodsky, a U.S. citizen and Nobel laureate, has lived in the United States since 1972, when he was exiled from the Soviet Union. In 1981 he was one of the first recipients of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Award. His essay collection *Less Than One* was awarded the 1986 National Book Award for criticism. Winner of the 1987 Nobel Prize for literature, he is one of only five Americans to win the award during the last 30 years (other U.S. laureates: John Steinbeck, 1961; Saul Bellow, 1971; Isaac Bashevis Singer, 1978; and Czeslaw Milosz, 1980).

Born in Leningrad in 1940, Mr. Brodsky left school at age 15 and supported himself as a laborer, millworker and merchant seaman while writing poetry. He taught himself English by translating English metaphysical poetry word by word. As his poetry and translations began to be read in Soviet underground (*samizdat*) poetry circles, his lyric talent and his independent spirit drew the ire of Soviet authorities. Citing his "social parasitism" and "decadent poetry," the Brezhnev regime sentenced him to hard labor at an Arctic work camp near Archangelsk.

His literary work, however, had already gained him the admiration of Anna Akhmatova and other well-known writers and Russian intellectuals. They championed his cause and secured his release after he had served 18 months of a five-year sentence. He was forced to emigrate and stripped of Soviet citizenship in June 1972. Almost immediately, he called on W.H. Auden, an early fan, at the latter's summer home in Austria. The English poet-critic's endorsement of Mr. Brodsky's work hastened Western recognition of the new émigré's extraordinary gifts.

In the United States, he took up his new life as poet-in-residence in 1972–73 at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, long a welcoming haven for émigré Russian intellectuals. He has also been visiting professor at Queens College, Smith College, Columbia University, New York University and Cambridge University in England. Williams College and Yale University have awarded him honorary doctorates. At Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts, he became the Five-College Professor of Literature in 1981 and has been Andrew Mellon Professor of Literature since 1986. He divides his time between the Mount Holyoke campus and a residence in New York City, where he is still affiliated with New York University.

Four of Mr. Brodsky's poems were published in 1966 and 1967 in Leningrad anthologies, but most of his work has appeared only in the West, where it has been translated into at least 10 languages. In English his

(Cont. on p. 213)

. . . as Mark Strand Ends His Stay at LC

At the Library, the first Thursday in May usually signals a farewell luncheon for the current Poet Laureate. This May it was for Mark Strand.

Although he was in his post only a year, Mr. Strand's stay at the Library was very different from that of preceding laureates, since he moved to Washington with his family for the duration of his appointment. He had come from the University of Utah, renting his home in Salt Lake City. Here he rented a house and enrolled his son Tom in a local elementary school, while his wife, Jules, took time off from her doctoral work in clinical pyschology.

Looking back on his experiences caused Mr. Strand to say that only those independently wealthy persons younger than 25 or over 70 should think about accepting the job.

But this is not to say Mr. Stand has not enjoyed his stay. For example, the Strands made frequent visits to art galleries and memorials, including "the Titian exhibit five times," according to Mr. Strand. "We like it here. There have been many high points, what with official events and the many friends and acquaintances we've seen and made. And the extraordinary abundance of bookstores never ceased to amaze me, as well as how friendly the people are."

Mr. Strand and his wife were frequent guests of Washington's movers and shakers, including President Bush. But Mr. Strand wishes the White House would include more intellectuals on its guest lists, saying, "I keep hoping that some brainy man or woman is going to be invited."

Unlike his British counterpart, the duties of the poet laureate in America are mostly undefined. For example, he does not have to write verse for official functions. Rather, his responsibilities include recommending readers and programs for the Library's literary season.

It has been mostly "unofficial" duties that have kept the poet busy. Swamped with interview requests, he once declared a temporary moratorium midway through his appointment. The requests have left him with little time to devote to his writing. He admits to being unprepared: "No one has ever paid this much attention to me and my work before, and the demands on my time were just overwhelming." Now he swears he'll make up for this next year, when he returns to the more placid ways of the West. While at the Library and in the spotlight, the poet said he felt the "noose tightening and becoming even more of a target for detractors."

The announcement of his successor, Joseph Brodsky, surprised Mr. Strand. The Russian émigré is a longtime friend, and the two are working on a book, *Poems for the Next Century*, to be published next year by Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

One of Mr.Strand's last public appearances as poet laureate was May 2, when he read to an overflow audience in the Montpelier Room. Librarian of Congress James H. Billington said, "It has been a hallmark of Mark's laureateship to participate wholeheartedly in the public literary reading series for which this Library is justly, and nationally, notable. His discriminating ear for the best of the younger voices in our poetry today has provided this year a first-class roster of many splendid poets, in subtly tuned complementary pairings, who have drawn enthusiastic audiences."

—John Sullivan

Brodsky *(Cont. from p. 212)*

first book of poems, *Elegy to John Donne*, published by Longmans in London in 1967, was followed by *Joseph Brodsky: Selected Poems*, translated by George L. Kline, with a foreword by W.H. Auden (1973); *A Part of Speech* (1980); *Verses on the Winter Campaign 1980* (1981); *Roman Elegies* (1984) and *To Urania* (1988). His *Marbles: A Play in Three Acts* (1989) was first published in Russian by Ardis Publishers in Ann Arbor in 1984.

In the Library's Recording Laboratory, Mr. Brodsky made a tape recording of his poetry for the Archive of Recorded Poetry and Literature in 1979, when he visited the Poetry Room with American University hosts Myra Sklarew and Arnost Lustig. He returned in 1984 and gave a public poetry reading here.

Mount Holyoke College President Elizabeth Kennan said, "Joseph Brodsky is a poet for all humanity. His work, which refines to a fire the capacity of language, captures the dilemmas of love and of loss, of history and the presence of evil in it. His recognition first as Nobel Prize winner and now Poet Laureate by the Library of Congress is a tribute to the magnitude of his literary achievement. But his students here at Mount Holyoke . . . know something of the magnitude of his humanity. We are all changed by his presence and thrilled by this signal honor, so justly awarded to him."

Nancy Galbraith

An eyelid is twitching. From the open mouth
gushes silence. The cities of Europe mount
each other at railroad stations. A pleasant odor
of soap tells the jungle dweller of the approaching foe
Wherever you set your sole or toe,
the world map develops blank spots, grows balder.

—Excerpt from "Sextet," dedicated to Mark Strand, from Joseph Brodsky's To Urania *(Farrar, Straus and Giroux, New York, 1988)*

Main Reading Room Goes Back to the Future

Finishing the details (from left) are Michael McClure, Barbara Finfrock and Herb Becker. *Photo by James Glover*

Readers and staff entering the reopened renovated Main Reading Room of the Jefferson Building in the next few weeks will step back to the future in a room that fuses 19th-century elegance with 21st century communications technology.

The centerpiece of the Jefferson has been returned to its past glory of gilded rosettes, grand marble arches and screens, murals, statuary and stained glass—crowned by the great rotunda that soars 160 feet above 226 readers' desks that circle the reference center below.

Not a wire is in sight. Beneath the marble, mahogany and new Wilton carpet, however, information can move at the speed of sound or light between researchers at computerized workstations and the Library's vast electronic data bases.

"We have preserved the Jefferson's look of the 19th century, before there were telephones, while designing and installing a communications system that gets the Library ready for everything we can imagine on anyone's desk for the next 20 years," said Howard Kierzewski, who with Manny Bahrami, Mike Handy and others in information Technology Services (ITS), began planning the Library's space-age technology in 1986.

Four reference desk computers and 44 new reader's desks wired for workstations have replaced the old card catalog in center court of the Main Reading Room. Although the card catalog has not been updated since computers preempted manual cataloging in 1980, it will be kept handy for hunting earlier records. With its 22,000 drawers of approximately 1,000 cards each, the catalog will remain intact in adjoining Decks 16 and 33 off the room.

A total of 16 personal computers (PCs) for reference librarians and 70 for the public will provide high-speed access to the Library's mainframe files that contain nearly 12 million catalog records of books, periodicals, maps, music and other items in the Library's collections. The data base includes some on-line records dating back to 1968 and all the catalog records created since 1980.

At any of the 226 reader's desks, plus 14 peripheral stations specially designed to accommodate wheelchairs, researchers will be able to plug in their own laptop computers. For now, they can only power their machines with which to make notes and write. Someday, once policymakers decide which of the Library's on-line files the public can access directly, researchers at any reader's desk will be able to tap into the Library's on-line system, search and retrieve bibliographic records from the MUMS and SCORPIO data bases and download copies to their own floppy disks.

Meanwhile, readers will be able to conduct their own electronic searches in 12 alcoves off the Main Reading Room and a new Computer Catalog Center, which Barbara Finfrock, ITS project coordinator, said is "unique—unlike anything else in the world."

The center features:

☐ 18 PCs with ACCESS touch screens for easy searching;

☐ 30 other PCs with high-resolution display on color monitors. At six of these workstations, readers will be able to capture mainframe screen images and download them to their own preformatted diskettes (either 5.25-or 3.5-inch).

☐ 10 Comterms, which are the old "dumb" terminals with diacritical marks that are particularly useful in searching for foreign-language materials;

New, quiet, inkjet printers accompany all of these machines so that readers can print out copies of the records they retrieve on-screen.

New CD-ROM (compact-disk, read-only-memory) resources cached at two central banks of 32 CD-ROM drives also will be available via network to searchers working at 12 of the PCs in alcoves around the room. One side of one 5.25-inch compact disc can store more than 600 million characters – equivalent to an entire encyclopedia. Working at a PC linked to the CD-ROM bank, users will be able to

(Cont. on p. 215)

find, retrieve, view and download citations and full text of resource guides and indexes similar to the *Readers' Guide to Periodical Literature*, as well as legislative information found in *The Congressional Record* and other publications.

Six workstations in a Reference Assistance Area will provide librarians access to all of the Library's data bases, the CD-ROM network and three outside networks – the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), Research Libraries Information Network (RLIN) and DIALOG.

ITS Quietly Takes Leading Edge. How the Main Reading Room reopens ready for the information age of the '90s and beyond is a story that began in the mid-1970s. That was not a propitious time for Library designers of future information systems, but Mr. Bahrami and Mr. Kierzewski kept on promoting technologies that sounded more like fiction than science.

"We had to convince a lot of people in LC and Congress this was coming," Mr. Bahrami said. "People would look at us like we were crazy; they'd ask us, 'Are you guys smoking something or what?' "

Computers were extremely expensive in the 1970s, and money was not easily appropriated for proliferating library technology so new and changeable that it was obsolete almost before it could be purchased and installed.

Therefore, according to Mr. Kierzewski, outside access to the Library's computerized data files was generally prohibited; more use would lead to increased demands–and expenditures–for automation. Undaunted, Mr. Bahrami and Mr. Kierzewski kept reading, watching and learning about developing information systems.

By the mid-1980s, they predicted with some certainty that affordable PCs, laser technology and fiber optics would revolutionize the way researchers use the Library. Instead of patrons coming to the Library to do their research, the Library could transmit data electronically to users throughout the nation and across the seas.

"This is nothing new," Mr. Kierzewski said. "Communications have been around since the first stone was carved; either you went to the stone or the stone was carried to you."

Mr. Bahrami and Mr. Kierzewski envisioned researchers at PCs in far away homes, offices or libraries using nationwide telecommunications networks to access, search and retrieve information from the Library's data bases in Washington. They knew that laser and digital technology, which created compact discs so popular with music lovers, made it possible to store, access and transmit the full text of a book, article or manuscript, as well as images of maps, photographs and graphics. They could imagine zapping a document to congressional offices across the street, sending a digital image of a book through a wire to Wenatachee, Wash., or pumping a byte-intensive video image through glass fibers to a producer researching the Library's film archives from Hollywood. And they anticipated the time when nearly every Library employee will have a desktop computer tied into a Library-wide network. "We won't have sneakernets (staffers walking information around on floppy disks) forever," Mr. Kierzewski said.

He and Mr. Bahrami could see these new waves of technology rolling toward the Library, but they were in the minority, at least on Capitol Hill. "We literally were thrown out of offices and laughed at," Mr. Kierzewski added. "During 1984-85, we briefed House and Senate communications people. They were polite; they humored us the way they would a small child."

The two never gave up. Over the years, they garnered support from some influential Library backers: Herb Becker, director of ITS; Donald C. Curran, associate librarian for Consitutent Services; and William Welsh, former deputy Librarian of Congress. Later, after he came on board in 1987, Dr. Billington shared and supported their vision of a "library without walls."

By 1986 a Legislative Branch Telecommunications Planning Group,

(Cont. on p. 216)

Bahrami (left) and Kierzewski created a superhighway of wires in a baseboard. *Photo by Yusef El-Amin*

Technology *(Cont. from p. 215)*

which included Mr. Kierzewski, was drafting a technology master plan that all legislative branch agencies had to conform to for the next 20 years.

"Today, standards in the AOC's (Architect of the Capitol's) master plan for putting in telecommunications wiring look surprisingly like ours," Mr. Kierzewski said.

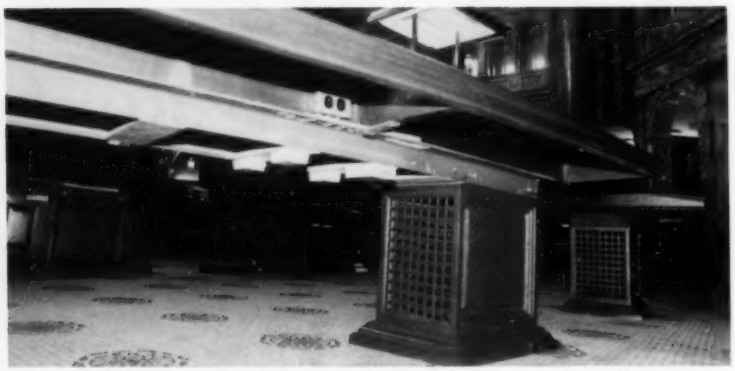
The pair successfully marshaled three arguments in support of spending nearly $1.5 million to wire the Library for the future:

☐ **Cost.** As the result of the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings law and the ensuing sequestration of funds from the Library's appropriation, the word was "Cut the cost," Mr. Kierzewski recalled. "We were projecting straight-line increases if we did not move ahead quickly to install telecommunications systems that would prepare us for the future, that would enable us to link up to nationwide networks we saw coming over the horizon. We projected our initial, front-end cost at about one-third what it would be if we put in a system piecemeal."

☐ **PCs were invented.** "We saw that the Library would have at least 3,000 PCs; nearly everybody would have one," Mr. Kierzewski continued. "We could envision sophisticated readers using the Main Reading Room and wanting to access Library data bases from there or wherever they were outside the Library."

☐ **Renovation.** The Architect of the Capitol was tearing up the Jefferson and Adams buildings during the renovation. This was the opportune time to replace old wiring and prepare the Library for voice and data telecommunications in the 21st century. "Can you imagine the Library spending [$81.5] million on the renovation and then hanging wires all over it?" Mr. Bahrami asked.

Another factor was a Library decision at this time to spend $4 million to install its own telephone system after the divestiture of AT&T, which had owned the telephone system used by the Library.



A 19th century reader's desk is now a power station. *Photo by Yusef El-Amin.*

The two prevailed. With a commitment from the Library and money from Congress in 1986, Mr. Kierzewski and Mr. Bahrami decided on a Premise Distribution System (PDS), which is compatible with AT&T's system, for the Jefferson and Adams buildings. "They began to put together the specifications for wiring systems to serve all telecommunications needs of the Library now and in the future," said Mike Handy, senior staff analyst, ITS. "It would have been a daunting assignment to many, but it didn't phase them."

The assignment was tricky. "We had to create a system that would handle any device, including those not yet invented," Mr. Kierzewski said. "We had to design a multimillion dollar wiring system before we could predict its exact use. . . . We knew that whatever we did, it had better last at least 20 years."

The system had to be simple and compatible. "Our goal was to make plugging in a telecommunications device as carefree as plugging in a coffeepot or pencil sharpener," Mr. Kierzewski said. "Our PDS charter was that any device used within the Library had to connect to any other device and that any communication system had to connect with any other system in the Library."

Furthermore, the system had to be capable of linking up with networks outside the Library.

Super Highways. The engineers chose a system of eight pairs of twisted copper wires for short communication hauls throughout the Library plus a pair of "fiber micron multimode" (glass) cables—a "super highway"—for long-distance voice and data travel at high volume and speed.

"Our PDS system, our super highway, will handle all known and proposed communication devices, from a Ford to a spaceship," Mr. Kierzewski said.

The PDS system they designed allows every station in LC to communicate at 4 billion bits per second, Mr. Bahrami said.

By comparison, a modern telephone system transmits sound at 64,000 digital bits per second, a color television signal takes 60 million bits per second, and an optical disc image takes 100 million bits per second.

Approximately 100 miles of "super wire"—fiber optic cables—serve 50 locations in the Main Reading Room as well as Computer Catalog Center terminals networked to CD-ROM

drives and the mainframe. Both copper and fiber optic cables can transmit all digital data, but the quality and speed of transmissions over copper wires diminish with distances beyond 150 feet.

Therefore, cheaper copper wires link most workstations in the Jefferson and Adams to fiber optic connections in "closets" no more than 150 feet away from workstations. From these closets, fiber cables lead to the mainframe in the Madison and transmit data at high speeds and in large volumes over longer distances, such as that to congressional offices on Capitol Hill.

Laying Out the System. Once the ITS engineers decided what kind of telecommunications system the Library should purchase for the Jefferson and Adams buildings, they then had to figure out approximately how many users it would serve and where to put the trunk lines. They did not know who would sit where in renovated space, but they reasoned that the location of power and data lines should dictate the location of workstations—a radical idea in an institution where utilities previously followed the people. "We used to perform almost custom installations," Mr. Kierzewski said.

Working from general plans provided by Facility Design and Construction, the engineers plotted grid patterns based on an average of one workstation for every 125 square feet of office space, every 50 square feet in the Main Reading Room, and every 500 square feet of space in the stacks. Facility Design and Construction designers now follow these grid patterns to lay out specific office space for staffers as they move back into renovated space.

Preserving Architectural Heritage. The next challenge was to conceal more than four miles of power and data lines in the historic Jefferson building without tearing up marble or defacing decorative facades. "Our charge was to make the Jefferson Building capable of 21st-century communications while preserving the look of the 19th century, when it was created, before there were telephones," Mr. Kierzewski said. "Before the installation of our PDS system, you'd find wires dangling everywhere, even glued to marble walls," added Mr. Bahrami. "When we finish, you will not see one piece of wire."

Completed in 1939, the Adams Building was not as difficult to wire. During Phase 1 of the renovation, contractors cut "manholes" through Adams's concrete floors for access to the fiber cables and wires strung through under-floor ducts. (The process will be repeated in the other half of the building during Phase 2 of the renovation.) Flat wires run over the floors beneath carpeting from duct connections to workstations.

The Jefferson is a different story. A museum piece, it cannot suffer defacement of its 19th-century marble floors and walls. Where possible, wires are strung through original chases, or flues, designed for gas heat in the 1800s. Hollow aluminum baseboards milled and painted to look like marble or extensions of decorative moldings camouflage lines for power and data strung around the edges of rooms; under-carpet flatwire connects to workstations.

"This is space-age technology," said Mr. Kierzewski, holding up a cutout section of a hollow baseboard. After hours of consultations and the rejection of six other designs, the Architect of the Capitol and the engineers agreed on a single piece of aluminum, shaped or "extruded" to form two compartments, the bottom one for power lines and the top one for data lines. Facings pop out for easy access to lines to make repairs or connections. Baseboards conform in design and color to their surroundings so that one would never suspect they are not original.

"Behind this 19th-century facade is technology for the 21st century, Mr. Kierzewski said.

Gail Fineberg

(Part 2 will appear in the next Information Bulletin.)

Photo ID to Be Required for LC Users

Beginning June 3, all Library of Congress patrons will be required to show a photo identification to use materials in all of the Library's public reading rooms. The photo identification must show the researcher's name and address.

For their convenience, patrons using the collections will be issued a Library of Congress User Card, which will be accepted in all reading rooms. Due to the nature of certain collections, additional procedures and conditions of use may prevail in some reading rooms. Patrons using the collections will be required to show their photo identification each time they request items from the collections but they will not be required to enter their full name and address on each request if they have a User Card.

Patrons who do not have valid photo identification may be granted access to the Library collections according to each reading room's policies and procedures, but they will not be issued a User Card.

This new program extends practices already in effect in many of the Library's special collections reading rooms where additional procedures may still be required. The purpose of the program is to provide an additional means of securing the Library's collections and to ensure the availability of the collections.

Future benefits of the User Card may include automated ordering of materials through the on-line bibliographic data bases and facilitating the use of the photocopying equipment. The longer term goal is to implement a centralized collections access system which would facilitate researchers' use of multiple reading rooms.

Joining Margrit Krewson at the Austrian Embassy ceremony April 15 were Librarian James H. Billington and Ambassador Friedrich Hoess (right). *Photo by Jim Higgins*

Austria's Grand Decoration of Honor Awarded to LC's German-Dutch Area Specialist

Margrit Krewson, German-Dutch area specialist in the European Division, on April 15 was awarded the Grand Decoration of Honor for service to the Republic of Austria. The award, presented by Austrian Ambassador to the United States Friedrich Hoess, was made during a reception at the ambassador's residence attended by Librarian of Congress James H. Billington, some 30 friends, family and Library colleagues. Mrs. Krewson was honored for her "performance, efficiency and dedication to fulfilling her assignment." As Ambassador Hoess remarked before he presented the award, "It is one of my most rewarding tasks to honor a person for her services to . . . Austria. In some cases, such distinction relates to persons who, mainly through their position or influence, have achieved such merits. Others just worked much harder than could be expected to fulfill their assignment, which involves services . . . of great importance to the Republic of Austria. Margrit Krewson represents both." The ambassador also paid tribute to "the wisdom and vision of Mrs. Krewson's superiors, the leadership of the Library of Congress and Mrs. Krewson's dedicated colleagues." The German and Dutch governments have also honored Mrs. Krewson for her contributions to scholarship; in 1987 she was awarded the Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany, and on behalf of Her Majesty Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, the insignia pertaining to the Order of Oranje-Nassau, in the grade of Knight, in 1989.

The Mystery of William Boyd

The Public Affairs Office of the Library of Congress is seeking information on sculptor William Boyd, who, in collaboration with Henry Jackson Ellicott, designed, created and installed the "ethnographic heads" that form the keystones on the first-floor windows of the Jefferson Building.

The entire set of these 33 works of art was made by two artists in a single year—1891—while work on the rest of the building proceeded for several years. The story of this early artistic project remains largely undocumented where biographical information on Boyd is concerned.

It must be pointed out that this particular William Boyd is neither of the two film actors (one famous as Hopalong Cassidy, of course), nor the doctor of the same name, born too late to have participated in such a project in 1891.

The following is known: that Boyd, in New York City, was hired by buildings and grounds superintendent Bernard Green in February 1891, and that, probably working out of Ellicott's Washington studio with the advice of National Museum ethnological curator Otis T. Mason, the entire set of heads was completed by August 1891 and installed before the end of that year.

Boyd apparently remained on the building staff at least through 1894, as foreman (along with one J. Johnston) of the stone- and marble-cutters who executed the ornamental details in the Jefferson Building. The photograph here depicts one such foreman on-site with the artisans.

Foreman Boyd or Johnston? (1894)

This is as much as we know. There must be relatives or descendants of Boyd himself, or of his many artistic collaborators in the Jefferson Building project who can shed more light on this. Please contact J. Wayne, Information Bulletin, Library of Congress, Room LM-105, Washington DC 20540, telephone (202) 707-0215.

EXHIBIT OPENINGS

To commemorate the bicentennial of the Polish Constitution of May 3, 1791, the Law Library organized an exhibit featuring historic holdings of the period from various Library departments. The Law Library's Polish legal specialist, Bozena Sarnecka-Crouch, the exhibit's curator, discusses the exhibit with Librarian James H. Billington (left) and Stanley Glod, chairman of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission. *Photo by Reid Baker*

James Hutson, curator of the exhibit "The Sister Republics," talks to a guest at the opening reception May 9. *Photo by Jim Higgins*

Librarian of Congress James H. Billington wore his own kind of crown for the Library exhibit opening April 24, "Take Me Out to the Ball Game: A Celebration of Baseball in Song. The exhibit coincided with the official opening of the 1991 major league season.

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